

**MINUTES
NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 5, 2004
3rd Floor, One Civic Center**

Present: Chairman John Shultz
Commissioner Dick Kiesell
Commissioner Jim Pompe
Commissioner John Horwitz

Absent: Vice Chair Badenoch
Commissioner Haskell
Commissioner Wendorf

Staff Present: Judy Register, Raun Keagy, Joanie Mead

Guests: Elwin Gillette
Morley Rolhiser
Jolene Rolhiser
Larry Persons

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Neighborhood Enhancement Commission was called to order at 5:30 PM and members were present as stated above.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 7, 2004 MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSIONER KIESELL MOVED THAT THE MINUTES BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. COMMISSIONER HORWITZ SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chairman Shultz introduced Commissioner Jim Pompe as one of the two new commissioners on Neighborhood Enhancement Commission. Commissioner Pompe joins the commission having served one term with the Scottsdale Pride Commission. Commissioner Lisa Haskell was unable to attend today's meeting.

**PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE COMMISSION ACTION ON A
NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP REQUEST FROM CASA
RICA NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION.**

Elwin Gillette, representing the Casa Rica North Neighborhood and accompanied by Morley and Jolene Rolhiser explained the proposal for painting the block walls

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surrounding their neighborhood. The neighborhood has organized itself to coordinate a couple of smaller projects in the recent past to include the replacement of a neighborhood sign, installation of a planter and weed clean up. The proposal before the commission called for the painting of 2300 feet of wall in the area of 110th Street and Altadena. The neighborhood is asking for \$7500 from the Neighborhood Enhancement Commission to complete the project.

The neighborhood did receive a donation of paint that might be able to be used for the project. One of the contractors estimating the project indicated that the paint needed to have a high chalk content to keep it from peeling and blistering. The neighborhood will investigate whether the paint is has is acceptable or if it needs to buy new paint in order to complete the project.

Commissioner Kiesel congratulated the neighborhood on coming together and submitting such a complete application. He encouraged the group to check out the paint in order to make sure the project is done correctly the first time.

The neighborhood members indicated that there have been some issues with residents maintaining the area between their homes and the wall and are hoping that this project will encourage them to participate more actively. Ms. Rolhiser stated that she has had some people living outside of the actual subdivision volunteer to help with the project. The representatives also indicated that since their neighborhood did its cleanup, they have noticed residents on a neighboring street doing the same.

Mr. Gillette indicated to the commission that the low bid on the project did not include power washing the walls. The neighborhood went back to that company and they gave an estimate of an additional \$875.00 for that service.

Chairman Shultz questioned whether anyone in the neighborhood owned a power washer. The representatives did not know of anyone who did.

Chairman Shultz requested that the neighborhood submit pictures of the finished project to staff so that the commission members would be able to see the completed project.

COMMISSIONER KIESELL MOVED THAT THE APPLICATION BE APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7500.00. COMMISSIONER POMPE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chairman Shultz asked the neighborhood about the application process. The representatives felt that the process was straightforward and allowed them to say what they wanted to say. They indicated that it did not take too much time but was a lot of work. Work that they were happy to do in order to be able to receive the grant and complete the project at hand.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE COMMISSION ACTION ON CHANGES TO THE
NEP GUIDELINES.**

Mr. Keagy stated that this item was on the agenda because of the discussion at the last meeting about wanting to recognize neighborhoods for their efforts in completing revitalization projects. He asked the commission what type of recognition they would be interested in doing and whether or not they wanted to change the application guidelines to include a report back to the commission at the end of a project.

Commissioner Kiesell stated that he would like to make the suggestion that each group reports back to the commission at the end of a project but that it should not become part of the guidelines.

Chairman Shultz agreed that that might turn some groups off of the process if another step was added. He indicated that he would like to see some kind of awards ceremony to which the Mayor and Council Members would be invited and the projects would receive formal recognition.

Commissioner Kiesell suggested that perhaps pictures could be taken of the projects and they could be presented to Council.

Commissioner Horwitz asked how much money is left in the account and what the commission's official position is in regard to funding projects in HOA neighborhoods as opposed to non-HOA neighborhoods.

Mr. Keagy clarified that the money used for a ceremony or awards would not come from the Commission's capital improvement funds, but from the department's operating budget.

Ms. Register indicated that there is a possibility that there would be room in the operating budget for a program to recognize the neighborhoods.

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The commission discussed some possible ideas for recognition citing other programs that included a trolley ride to see finished projects or to recognize citizens who were working to clean up their properties.

Mr. Keagy suggested the he and Ms. Mead would lay out some possible ideas and cost estimates for this type of ceremony and report back to the commission at the next meeting.

UPDATE ON THE SCOTTSDALE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION EFFORTS

Ms. Judy Register, General Manager of Citizen and Neighborhood Resources, reported to the commission on revitalization efforts. She reported that in Winter 2003, a team of cross-departmental city staff began a pilot program to coordinate a Mini Neighborhood Planning Process in one Scottsdale neighborhood. The first neighborhood was chosen by the analysis of information from a variety of sources to include; a windshield survey, code inspection calls, police calls for service and street/sidewalk conditions. After reviewing the information, staff made the decision to pilot the program in the neighborhood between Oak and McDowell and Granite Reef and Pima Roads.

While the neighborhood planning process can normally take more than a year, Ms. Register's group broke the process down into three meetings. The first meeting was an open house at which neighbors were introduced to the program. The second meeting was a brainstorming session with the residents. This allowed the residents to voice their issues and concerns within the neighborhood. The neighborhood then prioritized the issues in order of significance to them. At the third meeting, city staff returned to the neighborhood and addressed the issues in which the neighborhood expressed an interest in pursuing. This information included what city resources would be required to address their concerns as well as what the neighborhood could do to achieve the results they wanted.

Ms. Register reported that the participants appreciated being able to interact with city staff and to have their concerns heard. One participant stated that he was impressed that city staff would take the time to visit their little neighborhood. Although participation was lower than the group had hoped, she felt the overall program was a success.

City staff tweaked the process and repeated the program in the area bounded by Thomas and Oak Street and Pima and Granite Reef Roads. Significant changes to

the process included mailing surveys to the residents of the targeted area. A volunteer followed up the invitation with reminder calls to the participants.

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Ms. Register indicated that she received several phone calls as a result of the delivery of the surveys and the telephone calls and noted that participation in this part of the program was higher than that of the first neighborhood.

Several priorities were identified and are outlined in a memo that Ms. Register distributed to the commission. She indicated that she hopes to continue the program in September with the two neighborhoods just to the west of the two pilot neighborhoods. She stated that while the program is staff intensive, it helped to put a face to city government and engage the neighborhoods in creating solutions to critical issues.

STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES

Ms. Mead reported to the commission that the balance in the account for the current fiscal year is \$38,761.49. This is the balance that will be remaining after all monies pledged for pending projects are paid out.

Mr. Keagy indicated that this money would be carried over into next fiscal year.

Commission Horwitz stated that there are definitely projects needing to be done and money that needs to be spent. It is just a matter of finding the right groups.

Chairman Shultz recommended that the staff pass this information on to the code inspection teams in the hopes that they might be able to identify some worthwhile projects.

Commissioner Horwitz asked what the percentage guidelines were for HOA neighborhoods versus non-HOA neighborhoods. Mr. Keagy explained that there is a cap for HOA neighborhoods and there is not a cap for non-HOA neighborhoods. Also, non-HOA neighborhoods can come in with a proposal at any time.

Commissioner Horwitz asked if most of the people representing the HOA neighborhoods are on the board of those neighborhoods. Mr. Keagy responded that this tends to be the case.

Commissioner Pompe asked if two separate areas within one neighborhood could request funding for two different projects. Mr. Keagy responded that this is allowed.

Commissioner Horwitz asked if any appropriations were made for emergency lighting. Mr. Keagy indicated that two streetlights had been installed. Commissioner Horwitz asked if safety issues are restricted for HOA neighborhoods.

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Mr. Keagy said there are no restrictions when it comes to safety issues and indicated that we want to hear about any safety issues.

Mr. Keagy also reported that the Council had unanimously approved the text amendment discussed at the April Neighborhood Enhancement Commission meeting. He also told the commission that a public version of the computer tracking system for code enforcement would be before Council in the near future and be made available to the public shortly after that.

Chairman Shultz mentioned to staff that there is an area along McDowell Road and the Indian Bend wash where the right of way on both sides is covered in dirt and rock. He indicated that perhaps the commission could do a landscaping project in that area and put up a sign to showcase the project. He indicated that he would rather not have money left in the budget to carry over to next year.

Chairman Shultz congratulated Ms. Mead on the great article in the Arizona Republic regarding the Rebuilding Together project.

NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Neighborhood Enhancement Commission will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 2004.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Conway
Recording Secretary